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account. This does not detract from the value of the work as a presentation of the 'dynamics of the human organism,' but it certainly does seriously lower its value to the student of mental disease or of psychology in general.

The great desideratum of a work on the relations of body and mind that shall do justice to all the various lines of advance along which research is progressing, and shall succeed in unifying the presentation thus given with perhaps a proper historic setting, remains for the work of another hand. Whether or not the time is ripe for such a contribution is certainly an open question.

*Beiträge zur Geophysik. Abhandlungen aus dem geographischen Seminar der Universität Strassburg.* Ed. by Prof. G. Gerland. Vol. I. Stuttgart, Schweizerbart. 8°.

THE present volume is of great interest, even setting aside the scientific value of the papers contained in it. It illustrates the method of geography-teaching at German universities better than any elaborate description could do. As indicated in the title, it contains the results of researches of members of the geographical *Seminar*. The object of these institutions, which exist at every German university, is to teach students the methods of original investigation. The volume under review shows that this method leads to very valuable results. In the introduction, Professor Gerland gives his views on the aim and scope of geography. He is one of the few geographers who would exclude altogether what has been called 'anthropogeography' from the field of geographical researches. We believe that the author, one of Germany's most eminent ethnologists, was led to this conclusion by his intimate knowledge of the methods of ethnology. Recognizing that the latter are anthropologic, psychologic, or linguistic, he has no confidence in the generalizing speculations on the influence of the character of a country upon its inhabitants. On the other hand, he does not consider the methods of geology, so far as they are founded on paleontology, as the proper field of geographical studies, and confines the latter to the study of the problems of geophysics; i. e., the study of the physical and chemical forces as acting upon the earth. The essays contained in this volume treat exclusively this class of problems. Dr. H. Blink contributes an elaborate paper on the winds and currents of the region of the Lesser Sunda Islands, which he tries to explain according to Zöppritz's theory of currents and by considering the tides of this region. The influence of accumulations of polar ice during the glacial period is ably discussed by Dr. H. Hergesell. He shows that the changes in the levels of the sea are far too great to be explained by the attraction of polar ice and by the decrease of the amount of ocean-water, caused by their formation. The same author shows that it is extremely improbable that a river could reverse its course by the attractive action of the ice of the glacial period. The concluding paper of the volume is a discussion and compilation on submarine earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, by Dr. E. Rudolph, which is accompanied by very interesting maps. The author's discussion of the theory of the earthquake-waves is of great importance. These brief remarks show both that the volume contains papers of great importance, and the high standard of the work done in the seminary of the University of Strassburg. It may be expected that the subsequent volumes will be of equal interest and importance.

*The Geological History of Plants.* By SIR J. WILLIAM DAWSON. New York, Appleton. 12°.

THE student of plant-history will find in this volume a compact statement of much of our present knowledge of palæobotany, — a department of science in which the author has for many years occupied a distinguished position as an original investigator. A work of the kind here presented has long been needed, and cannot but meet with much favor from those who have earnestly and often vainly attempted to unite the fragmentary chapters that are found scattered throughout geological treatises and disconnected reports of learned societies. The individual chapters of the book before us not only treat of the geological succession of plant-forms throughout the various geological periods, but enter into a discussion of the structure of the more prominent types of fossil plants, geographical distribution, the conditions attending appearance and extinction, climatic changes, and the evolution of specific types.

The consideration of the theoretical questions constitutes the weakest portion of the work, and probably many will agree that the omission of much that it contains would have proved an advantage rather than otherwise. Professor Dawson apparently is still an anti-evolutionist, as the following quotation (p. 268), unfortunately of that character which bespeaks determined opposition to an idea, seems to show: "I can conceive nothing more unreasonable than the statement sometimes made, that it is illogical or even absurd to suppose that highly organized beings could have been produced except by derivation from previously existing organisms. This is begging the whole question at issue, depriving science of a noble department of inquiry," etc. And further, on p. 271, we find clearly stated his adherence in belief to "something not unlike the old and familiar idea of creation."

Sir William finds much difficulty in explaining non-variation through time on any evolutionary hypothesis of slow modification, and, as one of his *points de résistance*, refers to the oft-quoted identity existing between the plants of the Egyptian tombs and species now living, — a point which has also been forcibly insisted upon by Mr. Carruthers, president of the Linnæan Society; but why we should have expected to find a change in such a comparatively brief period is not stated.

Whatever position the author himself may hold in the matter of evolution, it appears more than likely that the intelligent student of his work will agree with a recent critic that "the evolution of species from species is apparent in every page of Sir J. W. Dawson's work."

*Yankee Girls in Zulu Land.* By LOUISE VESCELIUS-SHELDON. New York, Worthington. 12°. \$2.25.

THE author tells the experiences of three American ladies traveling in South Africa in so charming a style and good humor, and with such vividness, that it is very pleasant and instructive to follow her on her adventurous expeditions through the Cape Colony and the Dutch republics. While her description of Cape Town, of its European, Malayan, and African inhabitants, attracts us, the book becomes even more interesting when she describes her journey by stage-coach from Beaufort to the diamond-mines of Kimberley, and the social life at this place. From Kimberley they visited Potchefstroom and Pretoria in Transvaal, which was at the time of their visit occupied by the English. The author describes the prevailing discontent, and is full of praise of the beauties of the Transvaal. She is equally enchanted by the inhabitants and climate of the Orange Free State. From here the enterprising ladies made a long journey by ox-wagon; and the character of the land, the violent thunder-storms and sudden floods, are so graphically described, that the reader will feel well repaid. The attractiveness of the book is principally founded on the simplicity of the manner in which the author's experiences are told. Although it is not filled with statistics and treatises on the forms of government, it creates, by the truthfulness of the descriptions, a vivid and instructive picture of the forms of life and state of affairs in South Africa.

*Irish Wonders.* By D. R. MCANALLY, Jun. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin, & Co., 1888. 8°. \$2.

THE author, who paid a lengthy visit to Ireland, in course of which he traversed the island from end to end, has collected a considerable amount of Irish folk-lore, which he presents in this volume. Most of the tales are attached to certain places which the author visited, and, according to his statement, they are told in the same form in which the Irish story-teller told them: "Go where you will in Ireland, the story-teller is there, and on slight provocation will repeat his narrative; amplifying, explaining, embellishing, till from a single fact a connected history is evolved, giving motives, particulars, action, and result, the whole surrounded by a rosy wealth of rustic imagery and told with dramatic force an actor might envy." The story-tellers who told Mr. McAnally these legends mixed a good deal of politics with their tales, abusing the English landlord, and pleading for home rule. The author inserts the tunes and texts of a number of songs in his book, which are of considerable interest, the fairy dance on p. 26 being of particular value. The piano accompaniment of the song on p. 164 can hardly be approved. The book contains a number of legends referring to Satan and the saints, others on the pooka, fairies, and

the banshee. It is of some interest to see how a good matter-of-fact fisherman has deprived the legend of 'Gray Man's Isle' of all that is wonderful. The book is of considerable importance as showing the remarkable transformation which legends undergo under the influence of modern ideas.

*A Manual of German Prefixes and Suffixes.* By J. S. BLACKWELL. New York, Holt. 16°.

THE present collection of German prefixes is designed as a practical aid to students of German, and meets this purpose very well. It gives to the student a clearer sense of the meaning of many German words than even the best dictionaries can do. The manual is founded principally on Sanders's and Grimm's dictionaries of the German language. The meaning of each prefix and suffix is defined very clearly; and the slight variations of sense conveyed by suffixes — as *-mässig* and *-gemäss*, or *-lein* and *-chen* — are shown by well-selected examples. As the book is designed for practical purposes, no attempt has been made to give the etymology of the prefixes and suffixes. The manual will be of great value to students of German.

*Principles and Practice of Morality.* By EZEKIEL GILMAN ROBINSON. Boston, Silver, Rogers, & Co. 12°. \$1.50.

THIS work by the president of Brown University consists of the lectures which he has given in past years to his classes in ethics, and, as a text-book on the science, it has some decided merits. The style is good, to begin with, being clear and direct, and free from ostentation. The author is good-tempered also; and though he sometimes criticises other thinkers, and expresses his dissent from them in decided terms, he treats them all with eminent fairness. The book opens with a preliminary discussion of the object and scope of ethics; then follow a series of chapters on conscience, moral law, the will, the ultimate ground of obligation, and other topics in the theory of morals; and a brief account of the leading duties of man closes the volume. The chapter on the ultimate ground of obligation is, of course, the most important of all; and we are obliged to say that we do not find it satisfactory. Dr. Robinson examines the various theories that have been propounded by other writers, including the intuitionist, the utilitarian, and others, all of which he rejects for one reason or another, and then gives it as his own view that the ultimate ground of moral obligation is to be found in the nature of God as a perfectly righteous being. But, surely, if we have no ground of obligation in our own souls, if such ground exists only in the nature of God, we can have no means of knowing that God is righteous. If the ground of right and duty is in God's nature alone, then when we say that God is righteous, we can only mean that he always acts according to his own nature; which might with equal truth be predicated of every thing else in the universe. We do not think that Dr. Robinson has contributed any thing to the solution of the fundamental ethical problem; and there are other points in his work to which objections might easily be raised. Yet it contains much that is suggestive; and it will doubtless be useful to students and also for popular reading.

*A History of Political Economy.* By JOHN KELLs INGRAM. With preface by E. J. James. New York, Macmillan, 1888. 8°.

A HISTORY of political economy in the English language was undoubtedly needed, for the existing works on the subject were by no means satisfactory. We have many good histories of practical economy in its various branches; but a good history of economic theories, such as Mr. Ingram here undertakes to give us, has long been a desideratum. In many respects this treatise is excellent. The author shows a very wide acquaintance with the literature of the subject in all the leading languages, and he has evidently given a great deal of study to all the various schools. He sketches in brief the course of economic thought in ancient and mediæval times, but agrees with all other writers in recognizing economic science as strictly a product of modern times. He remarks that the mercantile system was the natural outgrowth of certain social conditions acting on unscientific minds, and then proceeds to trace the origin and progress of scientific economics, beginning with the physiocrats and other writers of the eighteenth century. The leading contributors to the science are all passed in review, and the works of

most of them well characterized. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Ingram is an extreme partisan of the historical school; and his partisanship has led him to underestimate the work of some of the great English writers, especially of Malthus, Ricardo, and Mill, whose defects he sees far more clearly than their merits. We find no fault with the author for treating his subject from the standpoint of his own school; but then he ought to do it in good temper, and without that irritation against men of opposite views which this book sometimes exhibits. Nevertheless, the work contains much valuable information, and will fill a useful place.

*The Study of Politics.* By WILLIAM P. ATKINSON. Boston, Roberts. 16°. 50 cents.

THIS little work is the introduction to a course of lectures on constitutional history, delivered by the author at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. What particular benefit its publication will confer upon the general public we are unable to see. The book is written in bad temper throughout, with constant inuendoes against the men and classes with whom the author disagrees. It is mainly devoted to practical politics and the duties of citizenship, with very little in it that can be called scientific. Moreover, what Mr. Atkinson says about the corruption of public life and the duty of good citizens to engage in political work has been said so often by the newspapers in all parts of the country, that its repetition in a book at this late day seems to be unnecessary. If, instead of such matter as this, Mr. Atkinson had given us an introduction to the political and social sciences and to the proper mode of studying them, his work would have been of far more value.

*A Manual of Physiology. A Text-Book for Students of Medicine.* By GERALD F. YEO, M.D. 3d ed. Philadelphia, Blakiston. 12°. \$3.

YEO'S manual was originally written to supply an elementary treatise on physiology for the series of students' manuals issued by this firm of publishers. Professor Yeo has succeeded in supplying a book which is well adapted to the wants of medical students. He has fully carried out the task which he undertook; viz., to avoid theories which have not borne the test of time, and such details of methods as are unnecessary for junior students. He has also omitted the history of the progressive steps in the growth of physiological science and the names of authorities, all of which would be but confusing to the student. In doing this he has taken care not to omit any important facts that are necessary to a clear understanding of the principles of physiology. The first edition, which appeared in 1884, being exhausted, a second has been prepared in which all important advances have been noted. The principal change which we observe is the entire revision of the chapters on the central nervous system, and their fuller illustration by means of drawings of the microscopical structure of the spinal cord. Yeo's manual has from the first stood in the front rank, but this recent edition will cause it to occupy a still higher position among the manuals of physiology.

*Education in Bavaria.* By Sir PHILIP MAGNUS. New York, Industrial Education Association. 12°.

WE hear a great deal about education in Germany, and not unfrequently overlook the fact that in matters of considerable importance the practice of the several German states is at variance. Prussia usually serves as the model for the rest, and but little attention is directed to Bavaria, Baden, Wurtemberg, and Saxony. As a member of the late Royal Commission on Technical Instruction, Sir Philip Magnus was led to make a careful examination of the educational practice in Bavaria, and it has been deemed of sufficient importance to be published as the second number of the Educational Monograph Series. Mr. Magnus suggests that the title is somewhat too general for the subject of which his paper treats; for his main object has been to show his English and American readers what is meant by a 'school system' in which each element bears a definite relation to all the others. The Bavarian school system is a typical one of these, in which organization and interdependence are pushed as far as they will go. The plan of the system is made very clear by an illustrative diagram. The paper is extremely compact, and does not lend itself to abridgment or con-